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ACTION ARA-16

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-14 ADS-00 HA-06 H-01 SPRS-02
NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 PA-01 L-03 CIAE-00 INR-10
NSAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 DCT-02 /097 W
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P R 022005Z JAN 81
FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7981
INFO AMEMBASSY ASUNCION
AMEMBASSY BRASILIA
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY LA PAZ
AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
USCINCSO QUARRY HTS
USCINCLANT NORFOLK

ARGENTINA PROJECT (S200000044)
U.S. DEPT. OF STATE, A/RPS/IPS
Margaret P. Grafeld, Director
(X) Release () Excise () Deny
Exemption(s): _____
Declassify: () In Part (X) In Full
() Classify as __ () Extend as __ () Downgrade to __
Date _____ Declassify on _____ Reason ____

[redacted] SECTION 1 OF 2 BUENOS AIRES 0024

USEEC; ROME FOR VATICAN; CINCSO FOR INTAFF; CINCLANT FOR POLAD

E.O. 12065: GDS 1/2/87 (DEANE, JOHN F.) OR-P
TAGS: SHUM, AR
SUBJECT: HUMAN RIGHTS SUMMARY: DECEMBER 13 - JANUARY 2, 1980/1

REF: BUENOS AIRES 9609

1. (U) SUMMARY. GOVERNMENT RELEASES 87 PEN PRISONERS. MRS. PERON TURNED OVER TO COURTS. ASYLEE IN MEXICAN EMBASSY, HECTOR CAMPORA, JR., DEPORTED. FRANCISCO MANRIQUE, 1973 PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE, CALLS FOR AN ACCOUNTING OF THE DISAPPEARED. END SUMMARY.

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2. (U) ON DECEMBER 23, 1980 THE GOA ANNOUNCED THAT IT RELEASED 87 PERSONS HELD UNDER PEN. OF THESE, 40

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WERE FREED WITHOUT CONDITION (AMONG THEM, EX-PROVINCIAL GOVERNOR OF MENDOZA ALBERTO JUAN MARTINEZ BACA), 21 HAVE BE GRANTED SUPERVISED LIBERTY STATUS, 4 WERE GRANTED THE RIGHT OF OPTION TO LEAVE ARGENTINA AND TWO FOREIGNERS WERE EXPELLED FROM ARGENTINA. AMONG THE 87 PERSONS, THOSE CASES WHICH ARE OF INTEREST TO THE US ARE LISTED BELOW ACCORDING TO CATEGORY OF ACTION TAKEN BY GOA:

A) RELEASED UNDER SUPERVISED LIBERTY: STIRNEMANN, ORLANDO LUIS (ADL, CANCER ANTI-CONGRESS); CEUNINK, MARTA PATRICIA (ADL); GONZALEZ, HECTOR RAUL (CANCER ANTI-CONGRESS, N.Y. BAR ASSOCIATION); AND DECURGEZ GARCIA, HECTOR HUGO (STATE DEPT, CONG. YATRON);

B) RELEASED WITHOUT CONDITION: CHIERNAJOVSKY DE NICOLETTI, MIRTA LILIANA (ADL); BERDINI, ESTHER NICOLINA (ADL); ARAOZ, HECTOR LUIS (AFL/CIO); GRZEY, JOSE CARLOS (AFL/CIO); LANZILOTTA, CARLOS ALBERTO (AMNESTY INTL); NUNEZ DE PUIGGROS, VIOLETA MARIA (STATE DEPT); AND VITON, ANIBAL JORGE (STATE, CONG.MARKEY, CONG. MCHUGH, CONG. HANLEY);

C) RIGHT OF OPTION: NO US INTEREST CASES. (CONGRESSIONAL INTEREST CASES MENTIONED ABOVE WILL BE ADDRESSED INDIVIDUALLY BY SEPTELS.)

3. [redacted] AT A PRESS CONFERENCE ON JANUARY 1, THE MINISTER OF INTERIOR ANNOUNCED THAT THERE ARE NOW 900 PEN DETAINEES AS COMPARED WITH 5,060 WHEN THE FIGURE WAS HIGHEST (THE DATE WHEN NUMBER REACHED 5,060 WAS NOT REVEALED). OF THE 900, 300 DO NOT HAVE ANY CHARGES [redacted]

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AGAINST THEM BEFORE THE COURTS, THE MINISTER NOTED. HE ADDED THAT PERIODICALLY MORE PEOPLE WILL BE FREED AND DECREES WILL BE ISSUED AUTHORIZING THE DEPARTURE OF OTHERS FROM THE COUNTRY. (NOTE: THE LAST FIGURE THA5 WE BELIEVED TO BE ACCURATE ON THE NUMBER OF PEN DETAINEES WAS 1,050. DEDUCTING THE 87 PERSONS RECENTLY RELEASED WOULD MEAN THAT 963 PERSONS ARE STILL DETAINED).

4. (U) ON DECEMBER 24 THE GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCED THAT IT HAD LIFTED APPLICATION OF THE INSTITUTIONAL RESPONSIBILITY ACT OF 1976 TO FORMER PRESIDENT MRS. MARIA ESTELA

MARTINEZ DE PERON, THEREBY TURNING HER OVER TO THE COURTS WHERE SHE HAS CHARGES OF MISCONDUCT PENDING. (SEE BUENOS AIRES 9925 FOR IN-DEPTH REPORT.) ON NEW YEAR'S DAY THE MINISTER OF INTERIOR TOLD THE PRESS THAT MRS. PERON'S CASES BEFORE THE COURTS WOULD PROBABLY NOT BE SETTLED UNTIL AFTER MARCH, AND HE SAID THE GOA COULD NOT CONSIDER GRANTING HER A PARDON UNTIL AFTER THE COURT CASES ARE EXHAUSTED.

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P R 022005Z JAN 81
FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
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AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
USCINCSO QUARRY HTS
USCINCLANT NORFOLK

[redacted] SECTION 2 OF 2 BUENOS AIRES 0024

USEEC; ROME FOR VATICAN; CINCSO FOR INTAFF; CINCLANT FOR POLAD

5. (U) ON DECEMBER 29 THE GOVERNMENT ALLOWED HECTOR CAMPORA, JR., AN ASYLEE IN THE MEXICAN EMBASSY SINCE THE 1976 COUP, TO DEPART ARGENTINA UNDER A SAFE CONDUCT PASS (SALVOCONDUCTO) AND TRAVEL TO MEXICO CITY FOR THE FUNERAL OF HIS FATHER, THE FORMER PERSIDENT, WHO DIED THE PREVIOUS DAY. PERONIST YOUTH ORGANIZER JUAN MANUEL ABAL MEDINA IS NOW THE ONLY REMAINING ASYLEE AT THE MEXICAN EMBASSY.

6. [redacted] JUST AFTER CHRISTMAS, FRANCISCO MANRIQUE, LEADER OF THE FEDERALIST PARTY, CALLED FOR THE GOVERNMENT TO RENDER AN ACCOUNTING OF THE DEAD AND DISAPPEARED.

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MANRIQUE WAS A PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE IN THE LAST GENERAL ELECTIONS (1973) AND WAS THE THIRD HIGHEST VOTE-GETTER WITH NEARLY 15 PERCENT OF THE TOTAL VOTE. THAT A CALL FOR SUCH AN ACCOUNTING SHOULD COME FROM MANRIQUE IS SIGNIFICANT NOT ONLY BECAUSE OF HIS CONSIDERABLE PERSONAL FOLLOWING, BUT BECAUSE THE FEDERALIST PARTY AND OTHER MEMBERS OF THE COALITION CALLED FEDERALIST POPULAR FORCE (FUFEPO) WERE STRONG SUPPORTERS OF THE MILITARY TAKEOVER IN 1976 AND HAVE BEEN GOA ALLIES EVER SINCE. INDEED, SOMETIMES FUFEPO HAS BEEN CONSIDERED THE NATURAL EMBRYO FROM WHICH TO BUILD AN OFFICIAL PARTY THAT COULD INHERIT THE GOVERNMENT ONCE THE MILITARY HAS COMPLETED ITS REFORMS. THE THRUST OF MANRIQUE'S MESSAGE TO THE GOA WAS POSITIVE -- CLEAR UP THE RECORD OF THE DEAD AND DISAPPEARED BEFORE VIOLA TAKES OFFICE IN MARCH SO THAT HE CAN DEAL WITH THE HOST OF OTHER PROBLEMS HE FACES WITHOUT THIS ADDITIONAL HANDICAP. THERE ARE, HOWEVER, NO INDICATIONS THAT THE MILITARY GOVERN-
MENT WILL HEED MANRIQUE'S ADVICE.

7. (U) ON DECEMBER 28 THE ARGENTINE ARMY ISSUED A COMMUNIQUE STATING THAT GERVASIO MARTIN GUADIX (AKA ALBERTO LUCIO CASTILLO), AND ALLEGED TERRORIST, COMMITTED SUICIDE BY SWALLOWING CYANIDE ON THE ARGENTINE-BRAZILIAN BORDER ON DECEMBER 2. THE ARMY COMMUNIQUE SAID THAT GUADIX HAD PARTICIPATED IN VARIOUS TERRORIST ACTS SINCE 1974 AND THAT ON HIS PERSON WERE FOUND VARIOUS FALSE AND BLANK IDENTIFICATION CARDS, INSTRUCTIONS TO CARRY OUT LABOR AND POLITICAL AGITATION AND SECRET CODES TO RECEIVE RADIO INSTRUCTIONS FROM MONTONERO GROUPS OUTSIDE THE COUNTRY. THE COMMUNIQUE STATES THAT GUADIX'S NAME FIGURES ON THE LISTS OF SEVERAL INTER-

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NATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AS ONE OF THE DISAPPEARED WHICH,

ACCORDING TO THE COMMUNIQUE, "REVEALS AGAIN THAT 'DISAPPEARED' PERSONS, SUPPORTED BY PSEUDO INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, UNDER THE APPEARANCE OF DEFENDING HUMAN RIGHTS, CARRY OUT TERRORIST ACTIVITIES."
SHLAUDEMAN

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